

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 01598 130941Z

11  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

IO-13 EUR-12 /082 W  
----- 112646

P 130919Z AUG 76  
FM USLO PEKING  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6195  
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

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E.O.11652: N/A  
TAGS: TPHY, CH  
SUBJECT: EARTHQUAKE SITUATION UPDATE, AUGUST 13

1. THERE HAVE BEEN NO NEW OFFICIAL NOTIFICATIONS ABOUT EARTHQUAKES SITUATION AND NO INDICATION HOW LONG POPULATION WILL BE KEPT OUT IN THE STREETS. WE HAVE OBSERVED SOME STRENGTHENING OF SIDEWALK SHELTERS AND SOME NEW CONSTRUCTION IN RECENT DAYS, ALONG WITH SIGNS THAT SOME RESIDENTS ARE MOVING THEIR SHELTERS, PERHAPS TO AREAS MORE SUITABLE FOR THE LONG TERM. AUTHORITIES STILL APPEAR WORRIED BY POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER QUAKE. JAPANESE EMBASSY REPORTS PEKING AIRPORT TERMINAL WAS EVACUATED FOR A SHORT TIME THIS MORNING IN AN APPARENT EARTHQUAKE SCARE. SOME EASTERN EUROPEAN DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL WERE TOLD TO STAY OUT OF THEIR APARTMENTS THE LAST TWO NIGHTS (THEY HAD BEEN PERMITTED TO OCCUPY THEM DURING THE FIRST TWO WEEKS FOLLOWING THE QUAKE), WHILE A WEST EUROPEAN EMBASSY WAS REFUSED PERMISSION TO HAVE THEIR CHINESE DOMESTIC HELP TO GO INTO APARTMENTS TO CLEAN REFRIGERATORS. DIPLOMATIC SERVICES BUREAU CONTINUES INSPECTION OF DIPLOMATIC APARTMENT BUILDINGS AND INDIVIDUAL APARTMENTS, BUT THERE IS NO WORD YET WHEN THEY WILL BE DECLARED SAFE TO REOCCUPY.  
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PAGE 02 PEKING 01598 130941Z

2. A NUMBER OF EMBASIES REPORT A CONTINUING RISE IN CONTACTS WITH PRC OFFICIALS ON TRADE AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE MATTERS. MFA OFFICIALS -- MANY OF WHOM APPEAR TO BE WORKING IN TENTS IN THE MINISTRY'S COMPOUND-- RECEIVE VISITORS JUST INSIDE THE LOBBY OF THE MULTI-STORY OFFICE BUILDING. (APPROACHES TO THE ENTRANCE ARE BEDECKED WITH SLOGANS RELATED TO THE EARTHQUAKE RELIEF EFFORT AND ANTI-TENG CAMPAIGN.) MEETINGS WITH OFFICIALS OF OTHER MINISTRIES ARE MOSTLY TAKING PLACE AT THE INTERNATIONAL CLUB OR VARIOUS GOVERNMENT GUEST HOUSES -- LOCATIONS WITH QUICK ACCESS TO OPEN AREAS.

3. INFORMATION ON AREAS OUTSIDE PEKING STILL HARD TO COME BY. A CHINESE WHO VISITED FAMILY IN TIENTSIN SAID THAT CITY WAS NOT HEAVILY DAMAGED. ITALIANS WHO DROVE THROUGH TIENTSIN CLAIMED THAT ABOUT 30 PERCENT OF THE BUILDINGS WERE DESTROYED AND ANOTHER 30 PERCENT WERE DAMAGED ENOUGH THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO BE PULLED DOWN. GATES

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EARTHQUAKES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976PEKING01598  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760311-1058  
**From:** PEKING  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 80  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 21 MAY 2004  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EARTHQUAKE SITUATION UPDATE, AUGUST 13  
**TAGS:** PINT, TPHY, CH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006